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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: NELSON, et al.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 5015C1

SERIAL NO.:

GROUP ART UNIT

FILED:

EXAMINER:

FOR: MASS SPECTROMETRIC IMMUNOASSAY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.60

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted pursuant to **37 CFR § 1.60** for the purpose of perfecting the filing of a continuation application based on U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 08/449,903 which was placed under Final Rejection by Official Action mailed October 16, 1997, the term of which is the subject of a concurrently filed Petition for Extension of one month to February 17, 1998 (February 16 having been a federal holiday, Presidents' Day). Accordingly, kindly amend the content of the parent application as follows for purposes of this continuation application:

In the Specification:

Page 2, line 2, after the title but before the "INTRODUCTION," insert the following paragraph:

---This application is a continuation of pending United States Patent Application, Serial No. 08/449,903 filed May 23, 1995 for MASS SPECTROMETRIC IMMUNOASSAY, now * _____;